THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

"And the Lord confirmed a priesthood also upon Aaron and his seed, throughout all their generations, which priesthood also continueth and abideth forever with the priesthood which is after the holiest order of God." DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS 84 : 18.

No. 20, Vol. 87 Thursday, May 14, 1925 Price One Penny

THE PROGRESS AND CONDITION OF THE CHURCH*

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

IT IS VERY GRATIFYING INDEED to see this immense congregation here this morning, bespeaking the interest of the Latter-day Saints in the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is customary at the opening session of our conference to give some statistics and to refer to the condition at home and abroad. I am very pleased to be able to announce that the work of the Lord is growing all over the world; and that there is never a month or a year but what the Church is stronger, spiritually and financially, than it was the month or the year previous.

The following financial statement, I am sure, will be of interest to the people here assembled :

From the tithes of the Church there has been expended for stake and ward purposes, $1,352,773.43.

For education, the maintenance and operation of Church Schools, $727,808.93.

For the construction, maintenance and operation of Temples, $442,018.46.

For the care of the worthy poor and other charitable purposes, including hospital treatment, $175,520.77.

For the maintenance and operation of all the missions and for the erection of places of worship and other buildings in the missions, $700,664.09.

This makes a total of $3,398,785.68 taken from the tithes for the

*Address delivered at the opening session of the Ninety-fifth Annual General Conference, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, April 4th, 1925.

maintenance and operation of stakes and wards, for the maintenance and operation of Church Schools and Temples, for charities, and for mission activities.

In addition to charities paid out of the tithes as before named, there has also been disbursed from the fast offerings, the Relief Society and other charities, $489,406.61, which, added to the $175,520.77 paid from the tithes, makes the total of Church charities, $664,927.38.

Children blessed and entered on the records of the Church in the stakes and missions, 19,955.

Children baptised in the stakes and missions, 14,047.

Converts baptised and entered on the records of the stakes and missions, 7,566.

There are now 94 stakes of Zion, 907 wards, 70 independent branches connected with the stakes, 24 missions, and 654 branches in the missions.

Birth rate, 33 per thousand.

Death rate, 7.3 per thousand.

Marriage rate, 13 per thousand.

There are 160,634 persons in the Church who are married; of this number 256 persons were divorced in the year 1924.

Families owning their own homes, 72 per cent.

As announced in the opening, President Charles W. Penrose is in a precarious condition. He sends his love to all the brethren, and desires them to know that they have his confidence in all that they may do. His message to the Saints is to obey the law wherever they may reside.

President Seymour B. Young, President of the First Council of Seventies, has passed away since our last conference; he had been a faithful member of that Council for over forty years.

A home on State Street has been dedicated for the entertainment of missionaries, and for the purpose of giving them instructions for a week or more prior to their departure for their missions; and also to take care of any returning missionaries who may be stopping temporarily in this city on their way home after having filled honourable missions. We are pleased to announce that at the dedication there was a rich outpouring of the Spirit of the Lord; and we feel assured in our hearts, judging from the inspiration of the occasion, that it will be a source of great benefit to our young men and young women who are called to go out into the mission field.

There have been some changes in a number of the stakes, and the new men chosen to preside are as follows:

Curlew Stake, Colen H. Sweeten.

Yellowstone Stake, John M. White.

Nebo Stake, Lee R. Taylor.

San Luis Stake, James P. Jensen.

Young Stake, Elmer F. Taylor.

New wards have been organised since our last conference as follows:

Hillcrest Ward, Grant Stake.
Inglewood Ward, Los Angeles Stake.
LaGrand Second Ward, Union Stake.
Payson Fourth Ward, Nebo Stake.
Santaquin Second Ward, Nebo Stake.
Genola Ward, Nebo Stake.
Virginia City Ward, Los Angeles Stake.
Home Gardens Ward, Los Angeles Stake.
Ballard Ward, Lost River Stake.

New stakes organised since our last conference:

Kolob Stake, President George Ray Murdock.
Palmyra Stake, President Henry A. Gardner.

In addition to the death of President Seymour B. Young, we announce the death, since our last meeting, of David H. Cannon, President of the St. George Temple for many years; Bishop James A. Wright of Bingham Ward, Jordan Stake; and Bishop Armond T. Rose of North Farmington Ward, South Davis Stake.

Perhaps no one thing in connection with the Church is as dear to the hearts of the Latter-day Saints as our missionary labour. Counting the time, the salaries that might be earned by those who are in the mission field, and the expense of maintaining them there, the Latter-day Saints are expending over $2,000,000.00 a year to spread the Gospel in the world.

We know that first and most important for us is to love the Lord our God with all our heart, might, mind and strength; and second to that is to love our fellowmen. No people in all the world, in proportion to their numbers, are giving such evidence of a love for their fellowmen, and a desire for their welfare as are the Latter-day Saints. Our missionary work proclaims to all the world our willingness to make financial sacrifice, and to labour with no hope of earthly reward for the salvation of the souls of the children of our Father in heaven. I am sure that a general statement of the missions will be of interest to this congregation.

We have in the California Mission, presided over most ably by President Joseph W. McMurrin, 125 missionaries. There are 8,625 people in that mission. We own Church property in that mission valued at $289,114.04.

In the Canadian Mission, presided over by Joseph Quinney Jr., there are 71 missionaries, 716 members, and $23,021.47 worth of property.

We have in the Central States Mission, presided over by Samuel O. Bennion, 158 missionaries, with 8,712 members, and $110,410.26 Church property.

In the Eastern States Mission, presided over by President Brigham H. Roberts, 143 missionaries, 4,689 members, with $232,818.55 Church property.

In the Mexican Mission, presided over by President Rey L. Pratt, 76 missionaries, 2,683 members, with $15,181.12 Church property.

In the Northern States Mission, John H. Taylor, president, 127 missionaries, 5,141 members, $88,691.57 Church property.

In the Northwestern States Mission, Brigham S. Young, president, 99 missionaries, 5,599 members, $82,535.76 Church property.

In the Southern States Mission, Charles A. Callis, president, 197 missionaries, 23,047 members, $64,066.14 Church property.

In the Western States Mission, John M. Knight, president, 96 missionaries, 4,977 members, $102,385.44 Church property.

Total missionaries in the United States, 1,092; total membership, 61,189; total Church property $1,008,230.35.

Each and all of the men presiding over these missions are giving the best in their power for the advancement of their missions. They are men of God, devoted to the welfare of their respective missions. And this can be said also of all the other missions, the statistics of which I shall now read, giving the name of the mission, the president, the missionaries, the membership, and the Church property.

Armenian Mission, President Joseph W. Booth, 2 missionaries, 164 members, $450.00 Church property.

British Mission, President James E. Talmage, 151 missionaries, 5,670 members, $78,518.17 Church property.

Here let me mention the splendid work Elder James E. Talmage is doing presiding over the European Missions. The fact that he is a member of the Royal Society of Edinburgh gives him a standing in Europe that perhaps none of the rest of us could possibly have. He is receiving excellent consideration from newspapers there, and is working early and late, as he has done all his life. He is one of the most industrious, energetic men I have ever known, and is making a very splendid successor to President David O. McKay, who did such a good work as the President of the European Missions.

Danish Mission, President John S. Hansen, 24 missionaries, 1,621 members, $55,284.95 Church property.

French Mission, President Russell H. Blood, 30 missionaries, 468 members, $1,242.03 Church property.

Netherlands Mission, President Charles S. Hyde, 61 missionaries, 3,189 members, $57,229.02 Church property.

Norwegian Mission, President A. Richard Peterson, 17 missionaries, 1,621 members, $52,774.43 Church property.

South African Mission, President J. Wyley Sessions, 18 missionaries, 485 members, $17,823.30 Church property.

Swedish Mission, President Hugo D. E. Peterson, 30 missionaries, 2,051 members, $53,350.17 Church property.

Swiss and German Mission, President Fred Tadje, 226 missionaries, 11,102 members, $51,497.79 Church property.

Making a total in the European Missions of 559 missionaries, 26,371 members, and $368,169.86 Church property.

The Island Missions:

Australian Mission, President Charles H. Hyde, 41 missionaries, 1,115 members, $40,911.18 Church property.

Hawaiian Mission, President Eugene J. Neff, 61 missionaries, 13,083 members, $195,830.00 Church property.

Japan, 164 members. That mission, as you know, has been discontinued.

New Zealand Mission, President Angus T. Wright, 45 missionaries, 6,184 members, $150,575.66 Church property.

Samoan Mission, President Ernest L. Butler, 44 missionaries, 3,462 members, $92,789.24 Church property.

Tahitian Mission, President Ole B. Peterson, 11 missionaries, 1,721 members, $13,403.70 Church property.

Tongan Mission, President Mark V. Coombs, 19 missionaries, 1,051 members, $24,853.52 Church property.

Making a total of 220 missionaries, 26,780 members, and $518,363.30 Church property.

We have Brother Angus J. Cannon presiding at the Smith Memorial Farm. We value the property there, belonging to the Church, at $20,000.00.

We have at the Palmyra Farm Brother Willard Bean. The property there is also valued at $20,000.00, making a total of $40,000.00.

The grand total of our missionaries is 1,871; of members in the missions, 117,340. The grand total of Church property in these missions is $1,934,763.51, lacking but a very few dollars of $2,000,000.00 invested in Church property in the missions throughout the world.

Certainly when we consider the limited means of the people who embrace the Gospel all over the world—for the Gospel seems to reach the poor—we have great cause to rejoice in the financial showing in our missions, as well as the wonderful showing financially here at home.

Since I last had the privilege of meeting with you in General Conference, I have visited the missionaries in the east, and given them instructions—in Indianapolis, Indiana; Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota; Detroit, Michigan; and Milwaukee, Wisconsin; also in Chicago, and held public meetings in all of these places except Chicago.

At Minneapolis we had the pleasure of dedicating a very splendid meeting-house and amusement hall erected there; and of meeting with a most excellent class of Latter-day Saints. We have chapels also at St. Paul and Minneapolis. The Saints at Detroit and at Indianapolis are gathering funds for the purpose of assisting in erecting chapels in those places.

On November 27, I left Salt Lake City for Independence to

attend the funeral of my cousin and the cousin of President Joseph F. Smith, Thalia Grant Smith. The services were well attended. After that I had the privilege of holding meetings in Independence, Kansas City, and St. Louis; also in Fort Worth, San Antonio and Kelsey, Texas; and in Wichita, Kansas, and instructing the missionaries in all these places, as well as holding public meetings which were well attended. In a number of places we had excellent meeting-houses to meet in. In others we had rented-halls.

During this trip I had the privilege of speaking before the Chamber of Commerce in Kansas City, Missouri. The secretary announced his regret that all of the six thousand members of that great body had not had the privilege of listening to my twenty-minute talk. I said in reply: "I can remedy that very easily. I will have six thousand copies of that speech delivered at your office so that when you send out your next monthly statements you can enclose a copy."

He expressed his pleasure for the offer. They were printed and delivered; and I have received many letters from men who have read the speech, expressing their pleasure in having heard or read what I had to say regarding the faith of the Latter-day Saints. In that short address, speaking very rapidly—much more rapidly than I am doing now—I quoted all the Articles of Faith and made comments upon them. It took four columns of the Christmas News to print that twenty and one-half minute speech. I rejoice that there were at least a score of influential men who shook hands with me and expressed their pleasure in having heard the plain statement of the faith of the Latter-day Saints as embodied in our Articles of Faith.

When I stop to reflect that the Latter-day Saints were expelled from the State of Missouri under an order of extermination by the governor of the state; then to think that representative men of one of the largest business organisations in Kansas City—one of the most progressive cities in the Union—would listen with attention and afterward congratulate the President of the Church upon a speech in which he quoted the Articles of Faith—and some of them expressed regret that I did not have an hour instead of twenty minutes, and invited me to come back again and take the hour—certainly we have to acknowledge that God is moving "in a mysterious way His wonders to perform"; and that the Latter-day Saints are becoming known for what they really are—a God-fearing, upright people, who are loyal to God and to their country.

The newspapers in all these places gave me better notices, and published fairer reports of the speeches I made than I have ever had before on any trip I have taken.

On January 9th, I left Salt Lake City for Los Angeles for a brief visit, feeling very much in need of a little rest. I had the

pleasure on that short trip of only ten days, of speaking in the Adams Ward, and the Matthews Ward in the Los Angeles Stake.

February 3rd, I left Salt Lake City for a visit to the California, the Central States, and the Southern States Mission—first treading the sands of the Pacific, and a few days later the sands of the Atlantic. Meetings were held upon that trip in Ocean Park, Oakland, and San Francisco; also in New Orleans; in Jacksonville, Florida; and in Atlanta, Georgia.

In all these places there was a splendid attendance, and again the newspapers gave fair notices of the meetings and of what was said. In no case was there any attempt to ridicule or belittle or to change the remarks that I made in public, where reports were taken, or where interviews were given. Some slight mistakes were made, but they were all unintentional mistakes.

I have never enjoyed greater liberty in proclaiming the Gospel than I did in some of the meetings on this last trip, lasting over five weeks, visiting the California, the Central States, and the Southern States Mission.

I believe this fully covers the activities of the Church that would be of interest to the Latter-day Saints, and of my own labors since we were together six months ago.

I rejoice, beyond the power with which God has endowed me to express my feelings, in the knowledge I possess regarding the divinity of this great latter-day work in which we, as Latter-day Saints, are engaged. As I travel and find a lack of belief in God and in the divinity of Jesus Christ, even amongst ministers, I rejoice in the fact that every man and woman who is in full fellowship in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has an absolute faith in God, in His individuality; and an absolute faith that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world; that He came to the earth with a divinely appointed mission to die for the sins of the world; and that He is in very deed the Head of the Church of Christ.

Upon the trip last mentioned, I cut from a newspaper a clipping I had intended to read at this conference, but I have misplaced it. It was a recommendation by an English lord that people discard the "absurdity" of Christ as a God on earth and the Redeemer of the world, and that they accept the Mohammedan philosophy—suggesting that they could believe in all of the ethical teachings of the religion of Christ and Mohammed, but that they should get away from the absurdities of Christianity and settle the various disputes and troubles that they are having in the Christian religion.

(TO BE CONTINUED).

WE CAN better help another by fanning a glimmer of goodness than by censuring his faults. Try equitably and gently to make allowances for human weakness.—DAVID LIVINGSTONE.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1925

EDITORIAL

PRIESTHOOD DAY

The Fifteenth of May is a day of especial interest to the Latter-day Saints, and one of deep significance to mankind at large—as shall yet be recognised and acknowledged. On that day in the year 1829, the Prophet Joseph Smith and his companion, Oliver Cowdery, were supplicating the Lord in the woods near their dwelling-place. The subject of their prayers was that of "baptism for the remission of sins", which they had found to be of frequent mention on the ancient Nephite plates, in the translation of which record Joseph was engaged at that period, with Oliver serving as his scribe. Doubtless the two had heard and read much of baptism and "Christening"; but the doctrine thereof, as set forth in the translation then in progress, and soon thereafter to be published to the world as the Book of Mormon, was invested with such solemn importance as to appeal to their minds and souls in an imperative way.

If baptism is an indispensable condition of salvation—and so they had read—and if humankind was then in a state of abject apostasy as to the ordinances of the Gospel—and the Angel of the Record had so declared—by what authority could this all-essential rite be administered at that time? No wonder that the translator and his associate were concerned and perplexed! The young prophet and seer had not forgotten that earlier occasion of blessed fulfilment, when in trustful humility he had reverently acted upon the combined admonition and assurance of James:

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

As these men prayed, there in the sacred solitude of the grove, an angelic personage descended before them in light and glory, announcing himself as John who was known of old as the Baptist, and declaring that he had come by direction of Peter, James and John, the presiding three of the Apostles, "who held the keys of the Priesthood of Melchizedek." Laying his hands upon the heads of the two, the resurrected and glorified Baptist ordained them into the Aaronic order of Priesthood, using these words:

"Upon you my fellow servants, in the name of Messiah I confer the Priesthood of Aaron, which holds the keys of the ministering of angels, and of the gospel of repentance, and of baptism by immersion for the remission of sins. . . ."

Joseph Smith has left to us the following record of what the heavenly messenger said, and of what was done immediately afterward in accordance with the instructions given:

"He said this Aaronic Priesthood had not the power of laying on hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost, but that this should be conferred on us hereafter; and he commanded us to go and be baptised, and gave us directions that I should baptise Oliver Cowdery, and afterwards that he should baptise me. Accordingly we went and were baptised. I baptised him first, and afterwards he baptised me, after which I laid my hands upon his head and ordained him to the Aaronic Priesthood, and afterwards he laid his hands on me and ordained me to the same Priesthood—for so we were commanded."

That event, unprecedented so far as the Scriptures of earlier dispensations show, is epoch-making in a literal sense. It marks the reestablishment of the Priesthood of God upon the earth, the restoration of Divine authority and appointment to officiate in the initiatory ordinance, without which, as the Saviour avowed, no man can find entrance into the Kingdom of God.

Moreover, this glorious occurrence demonstrates the continuity beyond the grave of Divine authority conferred upon individuals in mortality. As the lone Priest, crying repentance in the wilderness of Judea and baptising in Jordan, John was acting under heavenly commission; his martyrdom in the dungeon of Machaerus did not take from him his Priesthood. To the contrary, that divinely-conferred authority remained with him through the period of his disembodiment, and still invested him in his resurrection. True, as an immortalised being he did not, and possibly under the orderly laws of heaven he could not, personally officiate in baptising mortals; but obviously he had power to ordain and commission men in the flesh to so administer.

The declaration of the visiting Baptist to the effect that in his ministration to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery he acted under direction of Peter, James and John is proof of graded authority in the Priesthood. The Aaronic Priesthood is distinctively called the Lesser, while the Priesthood after the order of Melchizedek is specifically named the Greater. The Apostles, to whom were committed the "keys of the kingdom", were higher in authority than the Priests of the Aaronic order. Peter, James and John held "the keys", or rights and powers of presidency, in the Greater or Melchizedek Priesthood in the earlier dispensation, and these have continued with them; therefore through them alone could the restoration of that Priesthood and of presidency therein be effected in the current dispensation, following the long apostasy. John the Baptist held "the keys", or presidency, of the Aaronic Priesthood; and of necessity the restoration of that authority was accomplished through his directed ministry.

The Aaronic Priesthood comprises the graded offices of the Deacon, the Teacher, and the Priest; but this order of Priesthood

was conferred by John the Baptist upon Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery in its completeness, without specification of office therein. In accordance with the assurance given at the time of their ordination to the Priesthood of Aaron, Joseph and Oliver later received the Melchizedek Priesthood in its fulness under the hands of the Apostles, Peter, James and John. Thus in the present age, which is truly the Dispensation of the Fulness of Times, both the Aaronic and the Melchizedek Priesthoods are operative with all their ancient powers, authority and blessing.—J. E. T.

A NEW MISSION

ANOTHER EVIDENCE of the growth of the Church, particularly with respect to its missionary service, is seen in the creation of a new Mission in America. This, the Northcentral States Mission, is to include the eastern part of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota—of the United States—and the southern parts of Saskatchewan and Manitoba Provinces of Canada. Hitherto the several sections of this vast area have been parts of four Missions. Undoubtedly the change will produce increased efficiency and bring added blessing to all concerned.

NINETY-FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

(*Continued from page 303*)

UNDIMINISHED INTEREST in the proceedings of the General Conference was evidenced at the second session by an attendance even larger than at the opening session.

The first speaker was PRESIDING BISHOP CHARLES W. NIBLEY. The change of attitude on the part of the world toward the spreading of the Gospel, said Bishop Nibley, is significant. Commenting upon his query as to what had caused the change, he read from the Doctrine and Covenants to the effect that good and honest men should be sought out to govern the people, for "when the wicked rule the people mourn." It is the design of the Lord that His purposes shall be consummated, said the speaker, and He is overruling all things to that end.

In accordance with the word of the Lord, which says that it is not right for one man to be in bondage to another, the slaves were freed despite the ruling of the Supreme Court of the United States in the Dred Scott case to the contrary. The government and the Constitution of the United States were established and ordained at the hands of wise men for the blessing of all mankind, the Bishop declared, and all nations are being and shall be blessed thereby. In other lands, he continued, thrones have tottered and

free governments have been established in accordance with the purposes of the Almighty, that His word may be given to all peoples. The Lord has promised that so long as the people of America are righteous and seek the Lord they shall not be swept off. He expressed the belief that the great majority of the people in America are desirous of serving God. So long as they continue so, God's purposes shall the more speedily be consummated.

Elder John A. Widtsoe, the second speaker, pointed out the difference between the people of the world, who, unguided and unaided, are groping for the truth as to the meaning and purpose of life, and the Latter-day Saints who through revelation know whence they came and understand the purpose of their existence. He expressed special gratitude for the doctrines of eternal progression, and the consequent necessity for more revelation; and that "man is that he might have joy." Obedience to law is imperative to salvation said Elder Widtsoe. He expressed the hope that the Latter-day Saints are unselfish and sincere in their allegiance to the cause of the Lord. He stated that his own personal experience had taught him that true joy comes from living in accordance with the principles of the Gospel.

Elder Rey L. Pratt of the First Council of Seventies and President of the Mexican Mission expressed appreciation for the spirit that prompts such great gatherings as a General Conference of the Church. He said that there is no doubt in the minds of the Latter-day Saints as to the divinity of Jesus Christ, or the fact that this great latter-day work is under His direction. Elder Pratt bore a strong and fervent testimony, and stated that he desires to devote his best efforts throughout his life to the calling that he has so recently received.

Elder Stephen L. Richards said that it is not considered indelicate to speak in laudation of one's country, and he believed it not indelicate, or in poor taste to speak in laudation of one's own Church and people. He declared, in refutation of the insidious attempts on the part of many men to belittle the work and accomplishment of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, that the Latter-day Saints are the greatest people on earth, and that God has selected them for His great purposes. Furthermore, he said, the Latter-day Saints are a people great in riches—not altogether the wealth of the world, although that is not inconsiderable. They are rich in the love of God and their fellowmen; rich in health through yielding obedience, if only in part, to the Word of Wisdom; rich in their homeland; rich in vision, without which the people perish; and rich in all things that make for true joy. Elder Richards declared the Latter-day Saints to be a great people in intelligence, for true intelligence comprehends the ability to understand the truths of heaven. He said, too, that as the Lord had raised up men of lofty

purpose to establish the government of the United States so had He selected men fit and true for the carrying out of His purposes in the establishment of the Church. A people so great and so rich, said Elder Richards, surely is charged with the custody of the very salvation of humankind; with keeping sacred and inviolate the Gospel for future generations; with the establishment and perpetuation of the Kingdom of God; and with preparing the human race for the advent of the Saviour of the world. The speaker closed with a prayer that the Latter-day Saints may prove true to this great trust.

Elder John M. Knight, President of the Western States Mission, declared that the Lord is opening the way for the consummation of His work. The missionaries labouring in the Western States, said Elder Knight, are exhibiting great faith. Undaunted and unafraid they are proclaiming the Gospel. The speaker cited incidents that showed the faith of the Saints and the missionaries under his direction. He stated that the Saints of the Western States Mission are living in accordance with the Gospel principles, and many of them are preparing to fill missions. Elder Knight declared, in refutation of doubting queries, that the choicest spirits accept and yield obedience to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Resurrection was the subject of an address by Elder Brigham H. Roberts of the First Council of Seventies and President of the Eastern States Mission. Israel, ancient and modern, has been a persecuted people he said. The ancient prophet, Isaiah, cried to the Lord because of the persecution heaped upon Israel; and the great Jehovah, the God omnipotent; promised: "Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise." Elder Roberts stated that this is an age when men are denying the great doctrine of the resurrection though it be one of the chief cornerstones of Christianity. Paul pointed out the glories of the resurrection and taught its truths said the speaker. "But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain" argued Paul. To eliminate this principle from Christianity, said the speaker, would be to plunge man into the depths of hopelessness. Paul, however, after depicting the despair that would be inevitable if there were no resurrection, described the glories of a belief in the resurrection. He said: "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." Some people profess a belief in the great principle; and it is a hope in the hearts of many; but mankind in general, pointed out Elder Roberts, do not actually believe in a literal resurrection. Regardless of the wisdom of men, the speaker declared that he places faith in the word of Jehovah who promised: "Thy dead men shall live".

(TO BE CONTINUED).

THE LIVERPOOL CONFERENCE

THE LIVERPOOL annual conference was held on April 26th at Blackburn. There were in attendance President James E. Talmage, Sister May Booth Talmage, Elders Kenneth F. Schade, J. Howard Cook, and F. Artell Smith, all from the Mission headquarters, as also President Rulon W. Openshaw and all the Elders of the Liverpool Conference, together with many members and friends. In addition to the three general sessions, special meetings of the Relief Society, of the Priesthood, and of missionaries were held.

"The Achievements of the Church" was the theme of the instructive and well-prepared program rendered in the Sunday School session. The Mission President commended the children for the splendid manner in which the activities of the Church had been set forth. He made a short address on the apostasy of the Primitive Church and the restoration of the Gospel in this latter day. He declared that the Kingdom of God has been established to continue until the Lord's purposes shall be consummated.

During the conference addresses were delivered by the following missionaries: President Rulon W. Openshaw, Elders James M. Armstrong, Adrian V. Toolson, Elwood G. Meadows, J. Howard Cook, Kenneth F. Schade and F. Artell Smith.

Compliance with the requirements of the Gospel was urged. The blessings that follow obedience to the Word were set forth; and warning of judgments in store for those who refuse to give ear to the commands of God was voiced. Sister Talmage explained the necessity of accepting Jesus Christ as the Redeemer of the world, and bore testimony to the reality of His existence. Inspiring musical numbers were given by members and friends. Duets were rendered by Elder John H. Holden and Sister Mary Tinsley, Sisters Nora Duckworth and Ethel Espley, and Sisters Ellen and Mary Duckworth. Brother Tinsley sang a solo, and Miss Vera Victoria sang solo selections from "The Messiah" and from Mendelssohn with piano accompaniment by Mr. Crapper.

The main discourses of the day were delivered by the Mission President. He explained the conditions brought about by the fall of Adam and pointed out the necessity of free agency in the plan of salvation. He said that man will be judged according to the use of his agency, in the light of conditions under which he is placed. In the evening the President spoke on the second advent of the Saviour, and stated that His coming would be as a "thief in the night" for those who are found unprepared, but as a glorious redemption for those who have obeyed His laws.

ALLAN O. JOHNSON, Conference Clerk.

HE HAS a right to grumble who is perfect in all things.—E. J. CHANDON.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Release—The following missionary has been honourably released from his labours in the British Mission:

Trevor J. Buddell, the Birmingham and Bristol Conference.

Appointments of Conference Presidents—The following appointments of conference presidents have be made:

Wendall R. Anderson, President of the Welsh Conference.

Ralph C. Jones, President of the Norwich Conference.

Baptisms—Eight candidates were baptised at Dublin, Ireland (Free State Conference), on the 26th ult., by Elders Elmer H. Lloyd and Daniel A. Thompson. The candidates were confirmed at the evening service of the Dublin Branch.

Meeting of Missionaries—A meeting of the missionaries of the Leeds Conference was held at Bradford on the 2nd inst. Talks were given by Reed M. Ogden and Don J. Thurgood. General instructions were given by President Ernest J. Johnson.

Departures—President Russell C. Capener and Elder Robert Souter, honourably released from their labours in the British Mission, sailed for their homes, Friday, the 8th inst., per s.s. *Montroyal*. They were accompanied by Elders Wallace S. Trowbridge and Leland S. Capener from the French Mission, and Elder Albert A. Quellmalz from the Swiss and German Mission.

Transfers of Traveling Elders—The following transfers of missionaries have been made:

William J. Attridge, the Birmingham to the Norwich Conference.

Charles L. Johnson, the Welsh to the Sheffield Conference.

Harley K. Fernelins, the Sheffield to the Liverpool Conference.

Rollo E. Watkins, the Sheffield to the Liverpool Conference.

Union Meeting—The officers and teachers of the Leeds Conference met in a union meeting at Bradford-on the 2nd inst., with President Ernest J. Johnson presiding. Elder Orlando J. Condie gave a talk on the theme, "Duties and Responsibilities of Officers and Teachers." Brother Jack Thomas rendered a vocal selection, Brother Thomas Walker gave a reading, and Elder David W. Eardley rendered an instrumental selection.

Memorial Services—On the 19th ult., a memorial service was held in the Halifax Branch (Leeds Conference) in honour of Horace and Alwyn, sons of Brother and Sister George Smith. The two boys lost their lives by drowning. The service was conducted by Elder

J. Earl Wardle, and the speakers were Brother James Doyle and Elders Don J. Thurgood, John N. Fraser and J. Earl Wardle. Sister Amelia Doyle rendered a vocal solo. Many friends, relatives, and members of the Church were in attendance.

A memorial service was held in the Bradford Branch (Leeds Conference) in honour of Sister Ann C. Robinson who died in her eighty-fourth year. Elder Orlando J. Condie conducted the service, and the speakers were President Ernest J. Johnson, Sister Maude E. Johnson and Elder Orlando J. Condie.

Branch Conferences—On the 26th ult., a conference of the Aberdeen Branch (Scottish Conference) was held. "The Priesthood" was the theme of the program rendered in the Sunday School. The speakers of the evening session were President Junius S. Romney, and Elders Floyd C. Stuart and Wallace S. Calder.

The Sunderland Branch (Newcastle Conference) convened in Conference on the 26th ult. Brother Abram Wright conducted the Sunday School session and Brother Fredrick Oates the evening session. A program was given in the afternoon session by the Sunday School children. The speakers of the day were President William A. Monson, Elder C. Leland Davey and Brother Fredrick Oates.

On the 3rd inst., a conference of the Edinburgh Branch (Scottish Conference) was held. A program of musical selections and short talks on the Book of Mormon was rendered in the Sunday School. The speakers of the evening session included President Junius S. Romney, President Joseph E. Tillotson and Elder La Moin H. Wiser.

Socials—The Lowestoft Branch (Norwich Conference) held a farewell social on the 15th ult., for President James D. Moyle. The feature of the evening was a one-act comedy.

On the 15th ult., a farewell social was held for Brother and Sister James Sidwells and Miss Jessie Pierce at Eastwood (Nottingham Conference). The departing members will make their home in Dover.

A social was held in the Wolverhampton Branch (Birmingham Conference) on the 16th ult. An enjoyable time was had by all in attendance.

On the 21st ult., the Handsworth Relief Society (Birmingham Conference) in conjunction with the Priesthood held a surprise social in honour of Brother and Sister Charles C. Edwards who were recently married. An enjoyable program was rendered and refreshments were served. Brother and Sister Edwards were presented with a set of linen.

A farewell social was held in the Glasgow Branch (Scottish Conference) on the 21st ult., in honour of Brother Daniel McNair and his two children who are leaving for Utah. An interesting

program was rendered, and a token of remembrance was presented the departing members.

On the 22nd ult., the Wigan Branch (Liverpool Conference) held a farewell social for President Rulon W. Openshaw, on the occasion of his transfer from Wigan to Blackburn. A splendid program was rendered and President Openshaw, was presented with a token of love and esteem.

TRUE WORSHIP

O BROTHER MAN! fold to thy heart thy brother;
Where pity dwells, the peace of God is there.
To worship rightly is to love each other,
Each smile a hymn, each kindly deed a prayer.

Follow with reverent steps the great example
Of Him whose holy work was "doing good";
So shall the wide earth seem our Father's temple,
Each loving life a psalm of gratitude.

JOHN G. WHITTIER.

DEATH

THOMAS—Brother John Edward Thomas, an Elder of the Church residing at Ashby, Scunthorpe (Hull Conference), died at his home on April 11th. Deceased was born at Manchester, April 13th, 1863, and was baptised and confirmed by Elder A. Townsend, January 15th, 1898. Brother Thomas was a faithful labourer in many capacities in the Church. Funeral services were held at Scunthorpe, April 14th. Elder John C. Hooper dedicated the grave.

WAITE—Mrs. Harriet Waite, mother of Sister Charlotte Beck of Wimbledon (London Conference), died March 27th. Deceased was born May 4th, 1897. Although not a member of the Church, Mrs. Waite was very friendly to the members, and frequently had cottage meetings at her home. Funeral services were conducted by Branch President James E. Bradley of the South London Branch. Interment was effected at the Wimbledon Cemetery, and the grave was dedicated by President Carl E. Pettersson.

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EDITED, PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY JAMES E. TALMAGE, 295 EDGE LANE
LIVERPOOL
FOR SALE IN ALL THE CONFERENCES OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN GREAT BRITAIN